

MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2009
LOUISIANA CATFISH PROMOTION AND RESEARCH BOARD MEETING
LOUISIANA GOVERNOR'S MANSION
1001 CAPITOL ACCESS ROAD
BATON ROUGE, LA

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Sam Haring called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

SWEARING IN OF MEMBERS

Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry Executive Counsel Tabitha Gray swore in Bill Cheek, Rusty Freeland, Rusty Gaude, Sam Haring, Pat Scott and Stevie Stephens as members of the Louisiana Catfish Promotion and Research Board.

ROLL CALL

Louisiana Catfish Promotion and Research Board Director Rebecca Riecke called the roll.

DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

The presence of a quorum was declared by Chairman Haring.

MEMBERS PRESENT

BILL CHEEK
RUSTY FREELAND
RUSTY GAUDE
SAM HARING
PAT SCOTT
STEVIE STEPHENS

MEMBERS ABSENT

DIANA HARING

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

A motion made by Bill Cheek and second by Pat Scott to elect Sam Haring as Chairman and Stevie Stephens as Vice-Chairman of the Board. The motion carried.

CONFIRMATION OF DIRECTOR

A motion made by Rusty Gaude and second by Stevie Stephens to elect Rebecca Riecke as the Director of the Louisiana Catfish Promotion and Research Board. The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion made by Bill Cheek and second by Stevie Stephens to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2007 meeting. The motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Ron Harrell from Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation informed the Board of the amount in its checking account, which is \$31,157.21. No hard copy financial report was distributed.

A motion made by Bill Cheek and second by Stevie Stephens to accept the financial report. The motion carried.

USE OF MONEY IN CHECKING ACCOUNT

Ron Harrell informed the Board that the amount due to the Louisiana Catfish Farmers Association (LCFA) for the 2008 legislative event and the printing of recipes/cookbooks totals \$12,511.08. He said that the Board is responsible for \$8,668.04, and the remaining amount should come from the Louisiana Crawfish Promotion and Research Board for half of the expenses of the 2008 legislative event, which is \$3,843.04. After paying these expenses, the remaining balance of the checking account would be \$22,489.17. Mr. Harrell informed the Board there would also be charges for opening the checking account and new checks.

A motion made by Stevie Stephens and second by Rusty Gaude to accept Ron Harrell's report as stated. The motion carried.

Huey Priest discussed the Board's participation in the NOAA Fish Fry, which will take place June 10 in Washington, D.C.

A motion made by Rusty Gaude and second by Stevie Stephens for the Board to pay up to \$750.00 in conjunction with the LCFA for the NOAA Fish Fry in Washington, D.C. The motion carried.

Board members discussed what to do with the remainder of the money in the checking account, including the options of disbursing most of it back to the growers or keeping it in the account.

A motion made by Pat Scott and second by Rusty Freeland to leave the remaining money in the bank account. The motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ron Harrell called on Bob Odom to explain how a bill currently in the state legislature would affect the catfish industry.

OTHER BUSINESS

No other business.

ADJOURNMENT

No further comments were made. A motion made by Bill Cheek and second by Rusty Gaude to adjourn. The motion carried.